Numb. 29.

# The EXAMINER.

From Thursday *February* 8, to Thursday *February* 15. 1710-11.

*Inultus ut tu riſeris Cotyttia?*

## *An Anſwer to the* Letter *to the* EXAMINER.

*Sir,* *London, Feb.* 15. $17^{10}_{11}$.

THOUGH I have wanted Leiſure to acknowledge the Honour of a Letter you were pleas'd to write to me about ſix Months ago; yet I have been very careful in obeying ſome of your Commands, and am going on as faſt as I can with the reſt. I wiſh you had thought fit to have convey'd them to me by a more private Hand, than that of the *Printing-houſe*: For though I was pleas'd with a Pattern of Style and Spirit which I propos'd to imitate, yet I was ſorry the World ſhould be a Witneſs how far I fell ſhort in both.

I am afraid you did not conſider what an abundance of Work you have cut out for me; neither am I at all Comforted by the Promiſe you are ſo kind to make, that when I *have performed my Task*, D——n *ſhall bluſh in his Grave among the Dead*, W——le *among the Living, and even* Vol——e *ſhall feel ſome Remorſe*. How the Gentleman in *his Grave* may have kept his Countenance, I cannot inform you, having no acquaintance at all with the Sexton; but for the *other two*, I take leave to aſſure you, there have not yet appear'd the leaſt Signs of *Bluſhing* or *Remorſe* in either, though *ſome very good Opportunities* have offer'd, if they had thought fit to accept them; ſo that with your Permiſſion, I had rather engage to continue this Work 'till *They* are *in their Graves* too, which I am ſure will happen much ſooner than the other.

You deſire I would collect *ſome of thoſe Indignities offer'd laſt Year to Her M——y*. I am ready to oblige you; and have got a pretty tollerable Collection by me, which I am in doubt whether to publiſh by it ſelf in a *large Volume in Folio*, or ſcatter them here and there occaſionally in my Papers. Tho' indeed I am ſometimes thinking to ſtifle them altogether; becauſe ſuch a Hiſtory will be apt to give Foreigners a monſtrous Opinion of our Country. But ſince it is your abſolute Opinion, the World ſhould be inform'd; I will with the firſt Occaſion pick out a few *choice Inſtances*, and let them take their chance in the enſuing Papers. I have likewiſe in my Cabinet certain Quires of Paper fill'd with Facts of Corruption, Miſmanagement, Cowardice, Treachery, Avarice, Ambition, and the like, with an Alphabetical Table, to ſave Trouble. And perhaps you will not wonder at the Care I take to be ſo well provided, when you conſider the vaſt Expence I am at: I feed Weekly two or three *Wit-ſtarv'd* Writers, who have no other viſible Support; beſides ſeveral others that live upon my Offals. In ſhort, I am like a Nurſe who Suckles Twins at one Time, and has likewiſe *one or two* Whelps conſtantly to draw her Breaſts.

I muſt needs confeſs, (and it is with Grief I ſpeak it) that I have been the innocent Cauſe of a great circulation of Dulneſs: At the ſame time, I have often wondred how it has come to paſs, that theſe induſtrious People, after poring ſo conſtantly upon the *Examiner*, a Paper writ with plain Senſe, and in a tolerable Stile, have made ſo little Improvement. I am ſure it would have fallen out quite otherwiſe with me; for, by what I have ſeen of their Performances (and I am credibly inform'd they are all of a Piece) if I had peruſed them 'till now, I ſhould have been fit for little but to make an Advocate in the ſame Cauſe.

You, Sir, perhaps will wonder, as moſt others do, what End theſe angry Folks propoſe, in writing perpetually againſt the *Examiner*: It is not to beget a better Opinion of the late Miniſtry, or with any Hope to convince the World that I am in the Wrong in any one Fact I relate; they know all that to be loſt Labour; and yet their Deſign is important enough: They would fain provoke me by all ſort of Methods, within the length of their Capacity, to anſwer their Papers; which would render mine wholly uſeleſs to the Publick; for if it once came to Rejoinder and Reply, we ſhould be all upon a Level, and then their Work would be done.

There is one Gentleman indeed, who has written three ſmall Pamphlets upon the *Management of the War*, and *the Treaty of Peace*: Theſe I had intended to have beſtow'd a Paper in *Examining*, and could eaſily have made it appear, that whatever he ſays of Truth, relates nothing at all to the Evils we complain of, or controuls one Syllable of what I have ever advanc'd. No Body that I know of did ever diſpute the Duke of *M——————b*'s Courage, Conduct or Succeſs, they have been always unqueſtionable, and will continue to be ſo, in ſpight of the Malice of his Enemies, or, which is yet more, the *Weakneſs of his Advocates*. The Nation only wiſhed to ſee him taken out of ill Hands, and put into better. But, what is all this to the Conduct of the late M—n—ſtry, the ſhameful Miſmanagements in *Spain*, or the wrong Steps in the Treaty of Peace, the Secret of which will not bear the Light, and is conſequently by this Author very poorly defended? Theſe and many other Things I would have ſhewn, but upon ſecond Thoughts determin'd to have done it in a Diſcourſe by it ſelf, rather than take up room here, and break into the Deſign of this Paper, from whence I have reſolved to baniſh Controverſy as much as poſſibly. But the Poſtſcript to his third Pamphlet was enough to diſguſt me from having any Dealings at all with ſuch a Writer; unleſs that Part was left to ſome *Footman* he had pickt up among the Boys who follow the Camp, whoſe Character it would ſuit much better than that of the ſuppos'd Author. At leaſt, the foul Language, the idle impotent Menace, and the groſs perverting of an innocent Expreſſion in the 4th *Examiner*, join'd to that Reſpect I ſhall ever have for the Function of a *Divine*, would incline me to believe ſo. But when he turns off his *Footman*, and diſclaims that Poſtſcript, I will tear it out, and ſee how far the reſt deſerves to be conſider'd.

But, Sir, I labour under a much greater Difficulty, upon which I ſhould be glad to hear your Advice. I am worried on one ſide by the *Whigs* for being too *ſevere*, and by the *Tories* on t'other for being too *gentle*. I have formerly hinted a Complaint of this; But having lately receiv'd two peculiar Letters, among many others, I thought nothing could better repreſent my Condition, or the Opinion which the warm Men of both Sides have of my Conduct, than to ſend you a Tranſcript of each. The former is exactly in theſe Words.

To

## To the EXAMINER.

*Mr.* Examiner,

*BY your continual reflecting upon the Conduct of the late M—n—stry, and by your Encomiums on the preſent*, 'tis as clear as the Sun at Noon-day, *that you are a* Jeſuit *or* Nonjuror, *employed by the Friends of the* Pretender, *to endeavour to introduce* Popery, *and* Slavery, *and* Arbitrary Power, *and to infringe the* ſacred *Act of* Toleration *of* Diſſenters. *Now, Sir, ſince* the moſt ingenious Authors *who write Weekly againſt you, are not able to teach you better Manners, I would have you to know, that thoſe Great and Excellent Men, as low as you think them at preſent, do not want Friends that will take the firſt proper Occaſion to* Cut your Throat, *as all ſuch Enemies to* Moderation *ought to be ſerv'd. 'Tis well you have clear'd another Perſon from being Author of your curſed Libels; tho' D—mme, perhaps after all, that may be a* Bamboozle *too. However I hope we ſhall ſoon Ferrit you out. Therefore I adviſe you as a Friend, to let fall your Pen, and retire betimes; for our Patience is now at an end. 'Tis enough to loſe our Power and Employments, without ſetting the whole Nation againſt us. Conſider three Years is the Life of a* Party; *and D—mme*, every Dog has his Day, *and it will be our Turn next; therefore take warning, and learn to* Sleep in a whole Skin, *or whenever we are uppermoſt, by G--d you ſhall find no Mercy.*

The other Letter was in the following Terms.

## To the EXAMINER.

*Sir*,

*I Am a* Country Member, *and conſtantly ſend a dozen of your Papers down to my* Electors. *I have read them all, but I confeſs not with the Satisfaction I expected. 'Tis plain you know a great deal more than you write; why will you not let us have it all out? We are told, That the Qu—— has been a long time treated with Inſolence by thoſe She has moſt oblig'd; Pray, Sir, let us have a few good Stories upon that Head. We have been cheated of ſeveral Millions; why will you not ſet a Mark on the Knaves who are guilty, and ſhew us what ways they took to rob the Publick at ſuch a rate? Inform us how we came to be diſappointed of Peace about two Years ago: In ſhort, turn the whole Myſtery of Iniquity inſide-out, that every Body may have a View of it. But above all, explain to us, what was at the bottom of that ſame* Impeachment: *I am ſure I never liked it; for at that very Time, a* Diſſenting *Preacher in our Neighbourhood, came often to ſee our Parſon; it could be for no Good, for he would walk about the Barns and Stables, and deſire to look into the Church, as* who ſhould ſay, Theſe will ſhortly be mine; *and we all believed he was then contriving ſome Alterations againſt he got into Poſſeſſion: And I ſhall never forget, that a* Whig Juſtice *offer'd me then very high for my* Biſhop's *Leaſe. I muſt be ſo bold to tell you, Sir, that you are too favourable: I am ſure, there was no living in quiet for Us while they were in the* Saddle. *I was turn'd out of the Commiſſion, and called a* Jacobite, *though it coſt me a Thouſand Pound in joining with the Prince of* Orange *at the* Revolution. *The Diſcoveries I would have you make, are of ſome Facts for which they ought to be Hang'd; not that I value their Heads, but I would ſee them* expos'd, *which may be done upon the* Owners Shoulders, *as well as upon a* Pole, *&c.*

Theſe, Sir, are the Sentiments of a whole Party on one Side, and of conſiderable Numbers on the other: However, taking the medium between theſe Extreams, I think to go on as I have hitherto done, though I am ſenſible my Paper would be more popular, if I did not lean too much to the favourable Side. For nothing delights the People more than to ſee their Oppreſſors humbled, and all their Actions, Painted with proper Colours, ſet out in open View. *Exactos Tyrannos denſum humeris bibit aure vulgus.*

But as for the *Whigs*, I am in ſome doubt whether this mighty Concern they ſhew for the Honour of the late Miniſtry, may not be *affected*, at leaſt whether their Maſters will thank them for their Zeal in ſuch a Cauſe. 'Tis I think, a known Story of a Gentleman who fought another for calling him *Son of a Whore*; but the Lady deſired her Son to make no more Quarrels upon that Subject, *becauſe it was true.* For pray, Sir, does it not look like a Jeſt, that ſuch a pernicious Crew, after draining our Wealth, and diſcovering the moſt Deſtructive Deſigns againſt our Church and State, inſtead of thanking Fortune that they are got off ſafe in their Perſons and Plunder, ſhou'd hire theſe Bullies of the Pen to defend their *Reputations?* I remember I thought it the hardeſt Caſe in the World, when a poor Acquaintance of mine, having fallen among Sharpers, where he loſt all his Mony, and then complaining he was cheated, got a good Beating into the Bargain, *for offering to affront Gentlemen.* I believe the only Reaſon why theſe Purloiners of the Publick, cauſe ſuch a Clutter to be made about their Reputations, is to prevent *Inquiſitions*, that might tend towards making them *refund*: Like thoſe Women they call *Shop-Lifters*, who when they are challenged for their Thefts, appear to be mighty angry and affronted, for fear of being *Searched.*

I will diſmiſs you, Sir, when I have taken notice of one Particular. Perhaps you may have obſerv'd in the *tolerated* factious Papers of the Week, that the E—— of *R*—— is frequently reflected on for having been *Eccleſiaſtical Commiſſioner* and *Lord Treaſurer*, in the Reign of the late King *James*. The Fact is true; and it will not be denied to his immortal Honour, that becauſe he could not comply with the Meaſures then taking, he reſign'd both thoſe Employments; of which the latter was immediately ſupply'd by a Commiſſion, compos'd of *two Popiſh Lords and the preſent E—l of* G—d—l—n.


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